

National Early Intervention Scholarships and Partnerships (CFDA 84.138)

I. Legislation

The Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, Title IV, Part A, Subpart 2, Chapter 2 (20 U.S.C. 1070a-23) (expires September 30, 1997).

II. Funding History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1994	\$1,875,000
1995	3,108,000
1996	3,108,000

III. Analysis of Program Performance

A. Goals and Objectives

The National Early Intervention Scholarship and Partnership program (NEISP) awards one-year discretionary grants to states, which can be continued for up to four additional years, to encourage low-income students to get onto a college-bound track. These awards provide support services and the financial assistance necessary for them to attend college.

B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

Services Supported

The early intervention component gives incentives to states, in cooperation with local education agencies, colleges, community organizations, and businesses, to provide outreach and support services to low-income elementary, middle-school, and secondary school students who are at risk of dropping out of school. States are authorized to enter into agreements with eligible students, starting as early as preschool, under which the students agree to achieve certain academic milestones in return for “guaranteed” tuition assistance for college from the state for a specified period of time. Each state must use between 25 and 50 percent of its annual allotment for this component, although the Secretary has the authority to waive this requirement.

The scholarship component requires states to establish financial assistance programs for eligible low-income students who have received high school diplomas and who have participated in either the states early intervention program or in the federal TRIO programs, unless the Secretary waives the use of federal funds for this requirement. These students would receive at least 75 percent of the average cost of attendance for an in-state student at a four-year public institution or the maximum Pell Grant for the fiscal year, whichever is less.

In FY 1995, three new grants were awarded, totaling \$744,000, averaging \$248,000. In FY 1996, no new grants were awarded, but there were nine continuation grants. Average continuation grants were \$345,000 in 1996 vs. \$369,000 during the previous year.

C. Program Performance—Indicators of Impact and Effectiveness

Performance indicators are being developed. See also Office-Wide Performance Indicators for the Office of Postsecondary Education displayed in the Overview (OPS) to the postsecondary education programs.

IV. Planned Studies

None.

V. Sources of Information

1. Program files.

VI. Contacts for Further Information

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Program Studies: Dan Morrissey, (202) 401-3619